

North American Wetlands Conservation Council Meeting Highlights

July 9-10, 2013

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Council) met on July 9-10, 2013 in Ottawa, Canada, to select wetlands conservation projects that will be recommended to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (Commission) for funding approval on September 12, 2013.

The total estimated funding (from all funding sources) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 is \$80,154,864. Of this total, \$16,896,000 is available from the BP Macondo oil spill settlement. This funding will be allocated by Council following settlement guidelines. The remaining \$63,258,864 is allocated as follows: All Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act funds must be used in United States coastal ecosystems, while all other funds will be allocated 50% to projects in the United States, 45% to projects in Canada, and 5% to projects in Mexico. The estimated country allocations are: United States, \$41,387,664 (including \$3,000,000 allocated for the Small Grants Program); Canada, \$19,684,080; and Mexico, \$2,187,120. A portion of the United States funds (\$1,800) is derived from fines paid under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and must be spent within the state of Oklahoma.

Project Proposal Recommendations

The Council selected the following 21 United States Standard Grant Program proposals, requesting a total of \$21,541,119, to recommend to the Commission for funding. Matching contributions for these proposals total \$50,282,046.

Bottomlands of the Great Rivers, IL, MO
Cedar-Wapsi Valley Wetlands III, IA
Cobscook Bay - Bold Coast Project Area Phase III, ME
Connecticut Coastal Initiative, CT
Heads of Estuaries Phase III, ME
Lahontan Valley - Western Nevada Wetlands Project, NV
Lower Grand River Basin, MO
Mississippi Wetlands Conservation Initiative, MS
Missouri Coteau Habitat Conservation Project - XII, ND
Montana Hi-Line Prairie Wetland IV, MT
North Dakota Drift Prairie Project - IV, ND
North Sacramento Valley Wetland Habitat Project Phase VI, CA
Prairies Without Borders Phase IV, MN, ND, SD
Sears Point Tidal Restoration, CA
South Carolina Coastal Refuges Partnership, SC
South Carolina Lowcountry Wetlands Initiative IV, SC
South Dakota Habitat Legacy Project, SD
Southeast New Jersey Coastal Initiative, NJ
Southeastern North Carolina Wetlands Initiative IV, NC

Texas Gulf Coast XI, TX
Upper Iowa Prairie Pothole III, IA

New Matching Contribution Plans were also approved for the following proposals:

Lahontan Valley - Western Nevada Wetlands Project, NV
Mississippi Wetlands Conservation Initiative, MS
Southeast New Jersey Coastal Initiative, NJ

These recommendations are subject to available funding for FY 2014.

The balance of estimated FY 2014 funds will be allocated as follows: **U.S., \$15,006,470 (BP oil spill settlement funds) and \$21,736,075 (other funds)**; Canada, \$19,684,080; Mexico, \$2,187,120.

Scheduling

The next Council meeting is scheduled to be held December 9 – 13, 2013, at a location to be determined.

Meeting Summary

For a complete meeting summary, contact David Buie or dbhc@fws.gov.